

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

2006 REGULAR SESSION

The following concurrent resolution was reported to the Senate from the House and ordered to be printed.

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TREY GRAYSON
SECRETARY OF STATE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION creating a Land Stewardship and Conservation Taskforce.

WHEREAS, Kentucky is a land of scenic beauty and diverse topography; and

WHEREAS, Kentuckians value the unique qualities of their land and want to pass that legacy on to their children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, we are currently converting over 130 acres of forests, fields, agricultural land, wildlife habitat, and other natural areas per day to urban uses; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to address this issue while the opportunity for solutions still exists;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

The Legislative Research Commission is hereby directed to create a 1 Land Stewardship and Conservation Taskforce, that shall study the Commonwealth's 2 strategy for the protection of natural areas, farmlands, habitats, and forests, and produce 3 recommendations for a comprehensive land stewardship and conservation program, to be 4 called the "Conserve Kentucky" program. The study shall include, but not be limited to: a 5 review of the state's existing land preservation programs and their missions, their 6 interactions, funding sources, and methods for prioritizing projects; a review of other 7 states' land conservation programs and funding sources; a statewide assessment of 8 potential areas and acreage that may be secured from willing participants; and an 9 assessment of the sources and levels of funding needed to sustain a long-range plan. 10

Section 2. The taskforce shall be composed of the following members: one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; one member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; the secretary of the Cabinet for Environmental and Public Protection or the secretary's designee; and one member from each of the following organizations and agencies, to be

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- appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives: the Kentucky Heritage Land
- 2 Conservation Fund, the Kentucky Conservation Committee, the League of Kentucky
- 3 Sportsmen, the Kentucky Resources Council, the Sierra Club, the Kentuckians for the
- 4 Commonwealth, the Kentucky League of Cities; and one member of each of the
- following organizations and agencies to be appointed by the President of the Senate: the
- 6 Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission, the Kentucky PACE program, the
- 7 Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, the Kentucky Woodland Owners
- 8 Association, the Kentucky Farm Bureau, the Kentucky Home Builders Association, the
- 9 Kentucky Department of Parks, and the Kentucky Association of Counties.
- Section 3. The taskforce shall meet at least three times between June 30, 2006, and
- the date of the completion of its final report.
- Section 4. The taskforce shall submit its final report, along with recommendations
- and any proposed legislation, to the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the
- appropriate committee or committees by June 30, 2007.
- Section 5. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the
- 16 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the
- issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to
- designate a study completion date.

President of the Senate